

September 25, 2006

Recently at the Embassy

Ambassador Foley at the American Chamber of Commerce in Budapest



"Since its transformation to a market economy only 16 years ago, Hungary has made tremendous strides. It was the country that was probably the fastest off the starting blocks after the fall of the Soviet Union. And it has an enviable track record of growth and economic development. AmCham Hungary has been a key player in that success." said the Ambassador in her remarks on September 15.

[Remarks▶](#)

Embassy Commemorates the 5th Anniversary of 9/11

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To commemorate the 5th anniversary of the terrorist attacks against the United States, the Embassy hosted a *premiere* showing of Oliver Stone's film *WTC* to over 400 guests. In her introductory remarks, Ambassador Foley paid tribute to the victims of the terrorist attacks and to the heroic firefighters who tried to save the lives of others while risking their own.

Hungary's Third American Corner Opens in Debrecen

On September 19, Ambassador Foley opened an American Corner in Debrecen, a cultural center established to provide easy access for Debrecen citizens to information and programs on the United States. American Corners provide current and reliable information about the U.S. via book collections, the Internet, and through local programming to the general public.

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100th Anniversary of the Washington Statue

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Top Hungarian leaders, U.S. Embassy officials and members of the Hungarian public celebrated the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the George Washington statue in Budapest's City Park (Városliget) on September 16. In addition to commemorating the first President of the United States, participants also celebrated the talent and contributions of Hungarian immigrants, who raised the funds to set up Washington's statue in Budapest, and the '56 freedom fighters who, like Washington, fought for democratic values and personal liberties.

Ronald Reagan Bust Inaugurated in Budapest

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Photo: L. Csalavári

On September 22, the city of Budapest and the U.S. Embassy inaugurated a bust of former President Ronald Reagan in Budapest's City Park. The bust was made by sculptor Gábor Veres with the generous contribution of Péter Zwack. At the inauguration Ambassador April Foley, Budapest Mayor Gábor Demszky, and former Hungarian Ambassador to the United States Péter Zwack eulogized the 40th U.S. President and drew attention to the role he played in the democratization of Eastern Europe.

Chain-Reaction Franchise Conference and Exhibition

The international conference and jubilee celebrations of the Hungarian Franchise Association took place in Budapest on September 22-23. The U.S. Commercial Service of the Embassy represented six American franchisors at the event.

[Conference▶](#)

Promotion of U.S. Dry Fruits and Nuts in Budapest

Californian raisins, prunes, dried blueberry, almonds, and other products were introduced to Hungarian traders, hotel & pastry chefs and sweets industry buyers by American experts in Hungary's famous pastry manufacture Gerbeaud on September 12. The event was organized and co-sponsored by the Agricultural Office of the Embassy.

Looking Ahead

U.S. Embassy-sponsored Conference on 1956 Recollections

Please join us at a conference entitled "*1956 and Hungary: The Memory of Eyewitnesses - In Search of Freedom and Democracy*" held September 28 to 29 at the Italian Cultural Institute (1088 Budapest, Bródy Sándor u. 8). The conference is free and open to the public, targets the younger generations, and aims to contribute to the formation of a shared memory. For more information and to register, please visit www.1956andhungary.hu►

Hungarian-American Enterprise Scholarship Fund (HAESF)

There is one more chance this year to apply for both the Undergraduate and Senior Fellowships of HAESF. Deadline: October 1, 2006. [More►](#)

New Publication

U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century: Regional Issues

This E-Journal features essays by each regional bureau Assistant Secretary. They outline U.S. policy in that region, explain their personal visions, and also discuss how the Secretary's "transformational diplomacy" will help our international partners build and sustain democratic, well-governed states. [E-Journal►](#)

In the News... from Washington

International Religious Freedom Report 2006 Released (09/15)

"The United States seeks to promote religious freedom and tolerance and build a more peaceful world for the peoples of all faiths," Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said at the release of the Report. [Report►](#)

President Bush Addresses UN General Assembly (09/19)

President Bush urged all nations to stand with moderate reformers in the Middle East and to seek stability in the region through the establishment of free and just societies. President Bush also pledged continued U.S. support for the government of Iraq in its struggle against terrorists. [Address►](#)

2008 Diversity Visa (DV) Lottery Program Registration Announced (09/19)

Applications for DV-2008 will be accepted between October 4, 2006 and December 3, 2006. Applicants may access the electronic DV entry form at www.dvlottery.state.gov during the registration period. Paper entries will not be accepted. [More►](#)



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